

REMARKS

This application is a National Phase Application of PCT/IL2004/001099, having International Filing date of 01-December-2004, which claims the benefit of priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/525,886, filed on 01-December-2003.

Hereinabove indicated amendments made to selected text in paragraphs on pages 34 and 35 in the specification, correspond to corrections (amendments) of 'obvious-to-correct' type of typographical errors. Absolutely no new subject matter is included in any of these textual amendments.

By the present Preliminary Amendment, following is a brief summary of the status of the claims:

Claim 1, being in independent form, is currently amended.

Claims 2 - 23 are newly added.

By the present Preliminary Amendment, following is a brief explanation of the amendments of the claims:

Above indicated independent claim 1 was amended, and new dependent claims 2 - 23 were added, by strictly relying upon 'original' subject matter appearing in the specification (text, drawings) of the above indicated PCT patent application of the disclosed invention. Absolutely no new subject matter was introduced or used for amending independent claim 1, or for adding any of the new dependent claims 2 - 23. Accordingly, no new subject matter appears in amended independent claim 1, or in any of the new dependent claims 2 - 23.

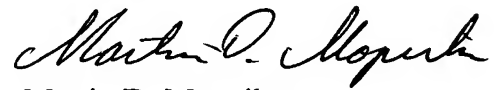
Specifically, original independent claim 1 has been amended by further limiting recitation of the claimed method performed by using any type of 'spectral imaging and analysis', to recitation of the claimed method performed by using the more specific type of 'hyper-spectral imaging and analysis'. Accordingly, recitations of the newly added dependent claims 2 - 23 are based on, and have full and proper antecedent basis from, the recitation of amended independent claim 1.

Full and proper literal (textual), and illustrative (figurative), support for amended independent claim 1, and newly added dependent claims 2 - 23, are provided in several places throughout the specification (text and figures) of the originally filed PCT

international patent application. Newly added dependent claims 2 - 23 were added for simply extending Applicant's eventual patent protection of the subject matter of the disclosed invention, based on recitation of amended independent claim 1.

Examination on the merits of the claimed invention is respectfully and earnestly solicited. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Martin D. Moynihan".

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